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Mary-Anne Wihak, director of visitor experiences for the Saskatchewan Parks Service, says crews have been busy getting the parks camper-ready for the May long weekend — the unofficial kickoff of the summer camping season. ALYSSA MCDONALD/METRO IN REGINA

Open season in the great outdoors

Provincial parks welcome campers. May long weekend heralds visitor boom as cleanup continues after long winter

ALYSSA MCDONALD
Metro in Regina

The long winter might have extended the cleanup at Saskatchewan's provincial parks, but that will do little to keep campers away on Thursday's opening day.

Mary-Anne Wihak, director of visitor experiences for the Saskatchewan Parks Service, says there is little — weather or otherwise — that can stop the "interesting phenomenon (of) the Saskatchewan May long-weekend camper.

"They are a hardy bunch and have camped in rain, shine, sleet, snowbanks — it doesn't seem to affect those people, those early spring campers' enthusiasm," said Wihak. "They are just so anxious to get out there."

Saskatchewan's opening of its provincial parks is the kickoff to the summer season for many campers. However, remnants of this past long, brutal winter continue to be cleaned up.

"It certainly is having an impact in terms of how quickly the parks staff were able to get in and start cleaning out the campsites," Wihak said. "Campers can expect that they will see a lot of work ongoing for spring cleanup."

Crews have been working hard to get everything from washrooms to campsites operational for the weekend, though some green spaces and trails remain in rough condition following the recent spring melt.

There is still time to clean up before summer visitors crowd the 34 provincial parks across Saskatchewan.

May and June tend to be slow but steady for the parks service, before the peak season beginning in early July. Last year, provincial parks recorded 3.5 million visitors during the summer months.

"2012 had a record year for visits," Wihak said, "and there doesn't seem to be any indication that trend is going to change any time soon."

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NEWS 1

Saskatoon police's armoured vehicle proves it's worthy

A success. The Bearcat has successfully defused potentially violent situations, according to one police officer

The Saskatoon Police Service's Emergency Response Team's armoured rescue vehicle, the Bearcat, seems to have proven its worth during its first year of service.

According to the Saskatoon Police Service (SPS), the Bearcat has been utilized 25 times since it was acquired by the force in March of 2012, seeing a total of 16 calls in 2012 and another nine in 2013.

Sgt. Ken Kane, one of four team leaders with the SPS's Emergency Response Team (ERT) explained there have been a number of times where the Bearcat has helped officers in conflict situations, noting the vehicle "has really changed how we conduct business."

"Instead of having to put officers in a hot zone without adequate cover … we now have the ability to get eyes onto the situation very, very quickly," said Kane. "We can get our negotiators closer, we can get our tactical medics much closer to a situation — it's really changed how we can deploy our resources."

Kane said that, as well as keeping officers safe, the Bearcat has proved a successful negotiating tool, as having the vehicle on scene has successfully defused potentially violent situations.

"It can't get inside of a suspect's head, but just with the calls where we have had barricades, we've had a lot of luck — or good fortune — where they see (the Bearcat) and they realize, 'The police aren't going away — this vehicle is on my front lawn. Wow, it's probably time for me to surrender.'"

Quoted

"Instead of having to put officers in a hot zone without adequate cover … we now have the ability to get eyes onto the situation very, very quickly."
Sgt. Ken Kane

Sgt. Ken Kane, one of four team leaders with the Saskatoon Police Service's Emergency Response Team, poses for a photo with the forces' armoured rescue vehicle. Kane says the vehicle has become an essential tool for the police.
MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

Care for a pint and popcorn at the movies?

A movie with popcorn, and with beer. The Saskatchewan government is allowing it, as long as a theatre becomes interested in offering alcohol to customers.

The province put 39 changes to its liquor regulations into effect on Wednesday, some of them — among others yet to kick in this summer — allowing for significant differences in the way alcoholic beverages are made available in Saskatchewan at theatres, on golf courses and, later this year, at spas.

No theatre in the province has yet secured permits to sell beer or possibly wine or liquor to cinema patrons. But Donna Harpauer, minister responsible for the Saskatchewan Liquor and Gaming Authority, said on Wednesday that the national Cineplex chain is eyeing the province for the kinds of alcohol offerings it makes available at some of its cinemas in other parts of Canada.

Any booze at cinemas would have to be sold "separate and apart from a theatre that has children," Harpauer said at the legislature.

"It doesn't have to be a separate building. It possibly could be a dividing wall. Cineplex is interested — I don't know whether they'll move forward or not."

Michael Langdon, Cineplex's director of communications, didn't tip the company's hand on what its potential plans are in Saskatchewan.

"We're always looking at a variety of different sites," Langdon said from Toronto.

"We generally don't speculate on things that may occur in the future."

Other changes in effect allow golf courses to decide on their number of alcoholic beverage carts or kiosks to serve their patrons.

The rest of the total of 77 liquor regulation changes announced last fall, Harpauer said, will likely take effect late this summer.

ROSS ROMANIUK/METRO REGINA

Damage deposits

Saskatoon renters out thousands of dollars in alleged online scam

An arrest warrant has been issued for a man after several people were caught in an alleged apartment rental scam in Saskatoon.

Police say they have received 18 complaints from people who tried to rent an apartment listed on the Kijiji social media site.

They say the alleged victims met with a man who claimed to be renting the unit.

The 33-year-old suspect took about $1,000 from each person as damage deposits.

The renters were told they could move in May 1, but got a call just before moving day about a problem with black mould in the apartment.

Jason Hartlen is being sought on numerous charges of fraud under $5,000, and police say he is wanted in Calgary and B.C. for similar alleged offences. METRO

On the web

For more local news go to metronews.ca

Case of missing man

Body pulled from South Sask. River

With the help of the Saskatoon Fire and Protective Service's (SFPS) Water Rescue Team, the Saskatchewan RCMP recovered the body of a man in his 30s from the South Saskatchewan River on Tuesday evening.

Cpl. Rob King said the man, who was missing before his death, has been identified, but at the request of his family, his name won't be released.

King says an RCMP officer was alerted to the body by two people riding ATVs, who said they saw what they thought was a body floating in the river near the town of Aberdeen.

MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

CONTRIBUTED/ SASKATCHEWAN TRIATHLON

FRED DYCK

The executive director for the Saskatchewan Triathlon Association Corporation talks about the exploding popularity of the sport

SWIM, BIKE, RUN

Conjuring images of extremely athletic people pushing their bodies to unbelievable limits through a trifecta of swimming, cycling and running, the triathlon seems like it may be a sport for only the athletic elite.

But according to Fred Dyck, executive director for Saskatchewan Triathlon Association Corporation, the sport is something everyone can participate in, which may explain why it's attracting more people in the province than ever before.

"We've just been on this steady growth curve," said Dyck. "We had (a) record number of participants and record number of memberships last year and that's kind of a trend that's been going on."

A triathlon course can come in a variety of forms, from a sprint — which sees athletes competing over shorter distances — to ultra distance, which is similar to running a marathon. Because of this variation, Dyck said people shouldn't find a triathlon intimidating.

"There is a perception out there that our sport is just about those crazy triathletes. And we're proud of those people, and we've got some in our province, but at the same time we're more than just that," said Dyck. "We really do try our best in all of our events to have an opportunity for all ages, both genders, all skill levels to participate."

Dyck points to the Subaru Saskatoon Triathlon, taking place in the Bridge City on June 30, as a sure sign the sport is growing in popularity in Saskatchewan, calling the opportunity to host the event a great honour.

"The event is kind of like a coming-of-age for the sport in our province," said Dyck. "We will get to see some elite races here — people that are professionals. It's still going to be a race that 95 per cent of the participants are amateurs … but because it becomes this broadcasted event, there will be some professionals here too."

While seeing hundreds of athletes from across North America participating in such a major event is exciting, Dyck said the opportunity to host is a huge coup for the Saskatchewan triathlon community.

"To have this opportunity for our local athletes ... to not have to travel for one of these world-class-level events is really exciting for our community," said Dyck.

JANE CAULFIELD/METRO

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B.C. elections. Pollsters explain their total failure

When it comes to opinion surveys, respondents — particularly young ones — tend to tick "Yes" when asked whether they intend to vote, even if it's not true.

That was the explanation offered Wednesday by two of the nation's most prominent pollsters when asked how they, along with all their competitors, managed to get B.C.'s election forecasts so completely, utterly wrong.

Ipsos Reid public-affairs vice-president Kyle Braid said 70 to 80 per cent of Canadians say they intend to vote in federal elections, even though the actual turnout is usually closer to 60 per cent.

"We need a better way of figuring out who the voters are," Braid said.

Mario Canseco, vice-president of Angus Reid Public Opinion, said the trend is even more pronounced among voters ages 18 to 34 — who said they were twice as likely to vote NDP as Liberal.

Premier Christy Clark THE CANADIAN PRESS

It won't be clear until Elections BC releases its exit-poll results whether more young voters did indeed skip the ballot box. But historically, just 16 per cent of B.C.'s electorate is made up of voters aged 18 to 35.

"We're talking to young people, but are we talking to too many?" Canseco wondered.

KATE WEBB/METRO IN VANCOUVER

Look, we can explain ... Anti-piracy firm caught using copyrighted photos

It's an embarrassing coincidence for the company leading the fight to uncover, and punish, online copyright infringement in Canada.

The Montreal-based company has changed the images on its website upon learning that several had been used without permission.

It was an awkward twist for Canipre, given that the company name stands for Canadian Intellectual Property Rights Enforcement and that it offers "takedown services" on behalf of Hollywood studios and other clients.

Pleading ignorance

"I didn't do my due diligence.... I just assumed we could use them."

Site-design contractor Trevor Paetkau, who called Canipre blameless in the snafu.

The company says it did not know that its contracted web designer used the images improperly and learned only through an article on the Vice website. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Defying UN?

Canada evading compensation for torture: Amnesty

Canada is obstructing efforts to compensate Arab-Canadians who suffered torture in Syria — in part due to lapses by Canadian agencies — ignoring a directive from the UN, says Amnesty International (AI).

The government is "battling every ... application up and down the court system in as protracted and drawn-out a manner as possible," said Alex Neve, AI Canada's secretary general.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Keystone XL

Tories boast about emissions record

When Stephen Harper talks about Canada's energy prospects at a U.S. think-tank on Thursday, his pitch will likely mention that Canada is halfway to meeting its greenhouse-gas target. But the question remains: What will Canada do to make up the other half?

As the U.S. mulls whether to allow the Keystone XL pipeline, the federal Tories have taken out ads in U.S. publications and launched a website to promote its approach to reducing emissions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

One government insider says the $90,000 sent to Sen. Mike Duffy was a gift to help a friend in financial difficulty. SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Senator repaid cash, but not on his dime

$90,000. Gift from PM's chief of staff raises even more accusations of corruption, coverup

Trust no one?

"We can't trust the Senate; obviously the Senate has no credibility on this. We can't trust the prime minister's word."

NDP ethics critic Charlie Angus, who called for a full investigation.

Less than a week after the Conservatives hailed Sen. Mike Duffy's "leadership" in repaying $90,000 in improper housing expenses, it turns out someone else made the bill go away.

Stephen Harper's chief of staff Nigel Wright personally covered Duffy's repayment, the Prime Minister's Office said on Wednesday — a transaction one insider described as a gift between friends that occurred without Harper's knowledge.

But the surprising transaction is raising questions about just how involved the Prime Minister's Office might have been with an independent audit into Duffy's expenses, and how it later portrayed that audit publicly.

The Senate's conflict-of-interest code explicitly prohibits senators from accepting any gift that "could reasonably be considered to relate to the senator's position." The Senate ethics officer refused to comment on the matter Wednesday, despite the fact gifts are supposed to be publicly disclosed.

The expense claims of Duffy and two other senators were examined by auditor Deloitte after they were accused of improperly claiming a housing allowance intended to compensate those who must maintain a secondary residence in Ottawa.

Deloitte noted in its report that Duffy stopped co-operating with the audit once the repayment was made. Now the government is refusing to provide any detailed breakdown of the expenses repaid by Duffy, keeping secret the full circumstances under which he was making claims.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Nigel Wright THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Time to start raising interest rates: Economist

Incoming Bank of Canada governor Stephen Poloz is already getting advice on what to do once he takes charge next month — start hiking interest rates.

A C.D. Howe Institute release authored by economist Paul Masson, a former special adviser to the central bank, argues that after almost five years of super-low interest rates meant to boost growth, it is time to take the economy off its meds.

The paper argues that unlike some other countries that have equally loose or even looser monetary policy, Canada's economy is operating close to capacity. Meanwhile, the side-effects of the monetary stimulus are becoming worse than the disease it is meant to cure.

"Raising interest rates is never popular, but keeping rates low for too long builds in pervasive problems for the economy," he says. "The time has come for the Bank of Canada to start raising interest rates gradually to lessen the continued buildup of financial imbalances."

Low interest rates have contributed to numerous distortions, Masson states, citing underfunded pensions, losses by insurance companies, excessive household debt, high real estate prices and a bias toward high-yielding equities and risk-taking.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Lost. Moon rock takes 40 years to reach Cyprus

Cyprus may finally get its piece of the moon.

Some 40 years ago, the Mediterranean island nation was supposed to receive a 1.1 gram piece of moon rock from the United States. The rock was one of 270 such lunar samples U.S. astronauts brought back from Apollo moon missions in 1969 and 1972 that the Nixon administration gave as gifts to foreign countries.

But the item vanished — allegedly taken by a relative of an American diplomat.

Three years ago, the moon rock was returned to NASA and locked up in a vault.

On Wednesday, a Cyprus Foreign Ministry official said U.S. authorities are favourably considering a Cypriot request that the rock be handed over.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Souvenir

The lunar souvenir, encased in a plastic globe, is from a rock from the Taurus Littrow valley of the moon.

Air India

Pilot locked out of cockpit mid-flight

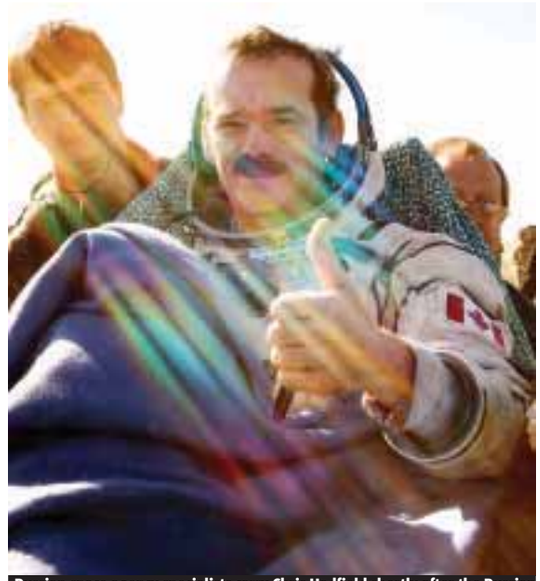
Air India says the cockpit door of one of its planes got jammed during a flight while the captain was using the washroom, forcing an unscheduled landing by the co-pilot in central India.

An airline statement says efforts to open the door, even from inside, failed during Tuesday's flight from New Delhi to the southern Indian city of Bangalore.

The door was fixed by ground maintenance staff and the plane resumed its flight. The airline said the incident posed no danger to the passengers.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sons pushed Hadfield to social-media stardom



Russian space agency specialists carry Chris Hadfield shortly after the Russian Soyuz space capsule landed near the Kazakh town of Dzhezkazgan, Tuesday.

MIKHAIL METZEL, POOL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Not an early adopter. Astronaut balked when Evan and Kyle preached the merits of Twitter and Facebook three years ago

Chris Hadfield may have become a worldwide Internet sensation with his dramatic photos, tweets and musical performances from space.

But it took some convincing several years ago by his two sons to persuade him of the importance of social media in the first place.

During a family Christmas get-together in 2009 the Canadian astronaut's son Evan, who now lives in Germany, and Kyle, who's in China, pointed out that they relied on the Internet to find out what's going on.

Hadfield had only 20,000 Twitter followers when he blasted off on Dec. 19, 2012. Upon his return to Earth this week, he was hovering around one million Twitter followers and more than 325,000 "Likes" on Facebook.

During the mission, Evan Hadfield acted as a self-described "Internet janitor" for his dad. Evan also played a big role in producing the now-famous "Space Oddity" video, the David Bowie cover; it was the most-watched video Tuesday on YouTube, with more than seven million views.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Legal limit

"A licensing agreement was signed with David Bowie's company and the CSA that allows this video to appear on YouTube for one year."

A Canadian Space Agency spokeswoman in an email on the "Space Oddity" video.

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INCLUDES accom near shopping and attractions.

San Francisco Air + 3 Nights was $854 now $779
INCLUDES accom near Union Square.

Tampa Air + 7 Nights was $904 now $829
INCLUDES accom in a beachfront resort on St Pete's Beach.

Miami Air + 7 Nights was $994 now $919
INCLUDES accom in a beachfront resort on North Miami Beach.

Family Vacations

Anaheim Family Special, Air + 4 Nights was $599◊ now $549◊
INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. ADD *Disneyland* Resort 3-Day *Park Hopper* Ticket from $246/adult, $232/child (ages 3-9).

Orlando Family Special Air + 7 Nights was $669◊ now $619◊
INCLUDES accom near major attractions. Price per person based on family of 4. UPGRADE to 4-star accom from $8 per night.

New York City Family Special Air + 4 Nights was $1039◊ now $989◊
INCLUDES Time Square area accom.

Honolulu Family Special Air + 7 Nights was $1069◊ now $1019◊
INCLUDES Waikiki accom near the beach.

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Expelled U.S. diplomat was 2nd spy: Russian operative

Cold War nostalgia. Alleged breach strains recent collaboration between sides in Boston bombing

A Russian security services operative — hidden in shadows — went on state television Wednesday to claim that the U.S. diplomat who was ordered out of the country was the second American expelled this year over spying allegations.

The anonymous operative said the CIA had failed to halt this "disturbing activity" despite Moscow asking it to do so.

The TV report came one day after Russia ordered Ryan Fogle, a third secretary at the U.S. Embassy, to leave the country after the Federal Security Service claimed to have caught him red-handed trying to recruit a Russian agent in Moscow. The agency, known by the initials FSB, alleged that Fogle worked for the CIA.

State TV channels showed a man identified as an FSB agent saying that another American was told to leave in January in "another case of recruitment." The anonymous speaker, whose identity as an FSB operative could not be confirmed, did not give the name of the expelled American.

A U.S. Embassy card of a man claimed by FSB to be Ryan Fogle. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Various Russian TV networks gave different names for the American, and the FSB refused to clarify the name to The Associated Press. State Department spokesman Patrick Ventrell declined to comment.

The purported FSB agent said that in the January case his agency had decided not to publicize the expulsion, unlike the Fogle case, which has been top news in the Russian media for two days. He said the FSB asked its U.S. counterparts after the January case to halt this "disturbing activity."

Wigs and spy gadgets are shown in Moscow on Tuesday. The FSB claims they were carried by a man it said was Ryan Fogle, a third secretary at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. FSB PUBLIC RELATIONS CENTER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The attention given to the Fogle case contrasts with recent moves by Washington and Moscow to develop closer co-operation on counterterrorism in the wake of the Boston Marathon bombing on April 15.

The bombing suspects — Dzhokhar Tsarnaev and his elder brother, Tamerlan, who was killed in a manhunt — have roots in the Russian republic of Chechnya. Tamerlan spent six months last year in Dagestan, now the centre of an Islamic insurgency. U.S. investigators have been working with the Russians to try to determine whether he had established any contacts with militants in Dagestan. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The spy who amused me

Some of the items Russian authorities say they seized from Ryan Fogle, whom they accuse of spying, look like they came from Austin Powers' arsenal rather than James Bond's.

- **Wigs.** A blond one and an equally fluffy dark one.
- **Sunglasses.** Another tried but true way to quickly change appearance.
- **Piles of cash.** A generous advance to encourage a would-be agent.
- **Recruitment letter.** Contains detailed instructions for a would-be agent about secure communications and future meetings.
- **Pocket knife.** Helpful if you live a life of adventure. Or even if you don't.
- **Pepper spray.** May offer some degree of protection in the Russian capital, especially against the stray dogs.
- **RFID shield.** A protective sleeve that prevents anyone from reading private information from credit cards and other items.
- **Lighter.** Maybe just a lighter.

China. Woman told by police to remove petition from White House website

Upset about plans for a petrochemical plant near her hometown in China, a woman turned to a new method that Chinese are using to air their complaints: She posted a petition on the White House's website. Then, Chinese police asked her to take it down.

Last week's run-in with internal security agents turned into an unexpected lesson for the woman.

"I didn't think (the petition) was a big deal and didn't foresee the ensuing events," said the woman, who asked to be identified only by the initials she used on the petition, B.Y., for fear of further angering the police.

B.Y., who is in her late 20s and works in the finance industry in the central city of Chengdu, said the officers asked her in a meeting last Friday to delete the petition from the White House open petition site.

Set up in 2011, the We the People site allows the public to directly petition the White House. But she said she discovered the site does not allow people to remove petitions so she was unable to comply.

The White House's online petition site We the People. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

B.Y.'s petition problem, which was first reported by Hong Kong's South China Morning Post newspaper, shows how prickly Chinese authorities are about Internet dissent, probably particularly when it involves the White House.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tokyo stands tall as China looks to bite off more land

In this Aug. 16, 2012, photo, an anti-Japan protester tears a Japanese Rising Sun Flag during a rally outside the Japanese Consulate General in Hong Kong as they demand the Japanese government release Chinese activists arrested after landing on Uotsuri Island, one of the islands of Senkaku in Japanese and Diaoyu in Chinese. China is trying to strengthen its claim on uninhabited, Japanese-controlled islands by raising questions about the much larger Okinawa chain that is home to more than a million Japanese along with major U.S. military installations. The tactic, however, appears to have done little but harden Tokyo's stance.

KIN CHEUNG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Who is the Syrian Electronic Army?

Activists or regime spies? Metro interviewed a member of the elusive network

KIERON MONKS
Metro World News

From wiping $136 billion off the U.S. stock market, to forcing spoof news site The Onion to turn serious, the Syrian Electronic Army is an emerging force in the conflict that has killed more than 70,000 people.

The pro-regime hackers have attacked hundreds of high-profile targets from the BBC to FIFA chief Sepp Blatter, but little is known about the group.

"The central mission of the SEA is to defend the Syrian nation against the vicious lying media campaign launched by more than half of the world," a spokesperson for the group told Metro. "We have not attacked any website or social-media account that has displayed neutrality when covering the war on Syria. Unfortunately, these are very few."

Launched quietly in 2011 from a Facebook group, the SEA has become an efficient network for creating chaos.

Composed "mostly of students and youth, with members of the Syrian Arab Army," according to the source, the group also has chapters in the U.S. and Europe.

The SEA's growing power was shown by an April hack of The Associated Press Twitter feed, from which they announced "Breaking: Two Explosions in the White House and Barack Obama is injured," causing a nosedive in the Dow Jones stock index.

The Onion fought back after suffering a similar attack, publishing a guide to SEA methods, which it claimed could be easily defended. However, further attacks on Sky News in May support the hackers' claim that they have more sophisticated tactics.

Membership numbers

5,000

Based on interviews with SEA operatives, Syrian activist Amjad Baiazy estimates there are more than 5,000 members, with a high level of training and funding.

Asked whether they supported President Bashar al-Assad's crackdown on protesters, the SEA said they "could criticize specific actions but whatever mistakes don't justify the animalism displayed by the opposition." They categorically denied receiving support from, or being close to, the regime.

This is disputed by experts.

"I think the SEA is close enough to the regime to be able to operate freely in a country that is known for its restrictive measures on Internet activities and information flow," said Helmi Noman, senior researcher at Citizen Lab who has studied the group since 2011. "The Syrian state TV has broadcast programs covering the activities of the SEA. SEA members appeared in these programs … so the group members are known and reachable to the Syrian media."

Syrian activist Amjad Baiazy, a former prisoner of the regime and academic researcher, goes further. "We know they are operating from Students' Union buildings which are like a syndicate for the government. The regime relies on the SEA for intelligence on opposition activists, gathering evidence for them to make arrests," he told Metro. "They are now a major asset for Assad."

BBC Weather
Tsunami alert for Haifa. Residents are advised to return to Poland
BBC Weather
Forecast for Tel Aviv on Saturday – 5000 degrees Kelvin with northern fog and eastern high pressure front
BBC Weather
Long Live #Syria Al-Assad #SEA
BBC Weather
Syrian Electronic Army Was Here via @Official_SEA #SEA #Syria

The Syrian Electronic Army was behind the hacking of the BBC's Twitter feed, above. Their hacking of The Associated Press Twitter feed caused the Dow Jones to nosedive, as shown by the plunging tracker below. SCREENGRABS

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Cellphones = healthy? Researcher says yes

The main device we use to communicate with each other may not be harmful to our health after all. In some cases, cellphones may even be something akin to an apple a day, a London, Ont., doctor says.

Lawson Health Research Institute's Alexandre Legros said a "very large piece of research" is showing that all those allegedly harmful electromagnetic fields radiating from hand-helds can actually be therapeutic.

The fields, he said, "can alter brain activity and physical responses, opening the possibility for therapy" for people with neurological disorders and diseases.

Cellphones have long been considered a potential health risk, with perceived damages including heightened chances of developing brain tumours. The World Health Organization's website, citing the International Agency for Research on Cancer, notes the electromagnetic fields are "possibly carcinogenic to humans."

Lawson started testing the idea a couple years ago, exposing volunteers to different levels of electromagnetic fields — via equipment like MRI machines — in order to see how they react.

So far, no one involved has seen their health decline. Instead, the exposure has created a bit of a spark in their brains.

Legros believes the research could provide a basis for future work, such as developing a less-invasive way to treat Parkinson's disease. Current treatments involve "very invasive surgery."

JOHN MATISZ/METRO IN LONDON, ONT.

But how will baby get his bath?

A worker stands on a deflated rubber duck created by Dutch artist Florentijn Hofman in Hong Kong's Victoria Harbor Wednesday. The 16.5-metre-tall inflatable rubber duck, which attracted visitors to the harbour, had been deflated since Tuesday evening. VINCENT YU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pound-losing procedure

Christie says frustration led him to surgery

New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie says he underwent secret weight-loss surgery because he had been feeling frustrated and angry over his inability to slim down.

The popular governor and potential presidential candidate told people attending an event at a Princeton bookstore that he got upset with himself when his clothes wouldn't fit. The Record newspaper reports Christie appeared with MSNBC host Mika Brzezinski, promoting his book Obsessed, which includes an interview with Christie about his weight.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leaving Scotland

Cardinal to pray, atone for sexual misconduct

The Scottish cardinal who resigned as archbishop after admitting to sexual misconduct will leave Scotland for several months of prayer and atonement, the Vatican said Wednesday.

Cardinal Keith O'Brien recused himself from the March conclave that elected Pope Francis after reports that he acted inappropriately toward other priests. O'Brien subsequently acknowledged he had engaged in unspecified sexual misbehaviour. He resigned as archbishop of St. Andrews and Edinburgh, apologized and said he'd stay out of the church's public life. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This little cubby went to the zoo

Buffalo, N.Y.

Polar-bear cub was delivered by hunter who realized he killed a nursing mother bear

It may have been the most anticipated package ever delivered to the zoo in Buffalo, N.Y.: an orphaned polar bear cub that arrived Wednesday from Alaska and will spend the summer with another cub born six months ago.

Kali arrived aboard a UPS flight at Buffalo Niagara International Airport shortly before 5:30 a.m., ending a 14-hour trip that was set in motion in March when a hunter in Alaska realized an adult female bear he'd killed was nursing.

"He followed the tracks back to the den, crawled down inside, found a cub, pulled it out, put it in his coveralls ... then got hold of U.S. Fish and Wildlife," said Patrick Lampi, executive director of the Alaska Zoo, which has cared for the bear since.

Called Kali, the male cub now weighs 65 pounds and is estimated to be just less than 5 months old. It would have been unable to care for itself in the wild, experts said. Young polar bears stay with their mothers for about 2 years.

In Buffalo, it will slowly be introduced to Luna, a female polar bear born Nov. 27 that has become a visitor favourite and the face of an $18 million fundraising campaign for a planned Arctic exhibit and new zoo entrance. Experts said both cubs will benefit from interacting with each other rather than only human caretakers.

A few hours after Kali's arrival, the cubs were in adjacent dens, able to smell and hear each other but prevented by a solid barrier from visual and physical contact. The next step will be to replace the barrier with mesh.

"Then they can have some limited physical contact, visual contact," zoo president Donna Fernandes said at a press conference as Luna, behind a glass partition, dove over and over into a pond, pounced on a toy ark and ball, and wrestled with shrubbery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Awww

"I think they'll be very excited to have a playmate."

Zoo president Donna Fernandes

Kali, an orphaned polar bear cub seen in this undated photo, was possibly the most anticipated package ever delivered to the zoo in Buffalo, N.Y. The cub arrived Wednesday from Alaska and will spend the summer with another cub. JOHN GOMES/ALASKA ZOO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Rescuers digging for survivors after deadly Indonesia cave-in

At least four dead.
Roof collapse during safety training at U.S.-owned mine leaves about 25 trapped

Mining activities at a giant U.S.-owned gold and copper mine in Indonesia were halted Wednesday as rescuers dug through a caved-in mine tunnel looking for about 25 trapped workers, the mine operator said.

Four bodies have been found and 10 miners rescued since the cave-in occurred Tuesday morning. Oxygen was being pumped into the tunnel as the search continued, but the status of the trapped workers was not known.

Heavy equipment cannot be used in the tight space, forcing rescuers to remove debris by hand, according to a statement from PT Freeport Indonesia, a subsidiary that runs the Grasberg mine, which is owned by Phoenix, Arizona-based Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc.

"We don't want to be careless because the terrain surrounding the old tunnel is prone to collapse," said police spokesman Lt. Col. Gede Sumerta Jaya. All of the workers are men, and many of those rescued suffered cuts and broken bones, Sumerta said.

He said the cause of the cave-in was unclear. An investigation team from the Indonesian mines and energy ministry was sent to the site, senior ministry official Thamrin Sihite said.

Meanwhile, hundreds of workers blocked a main road about three kilometres from the accident site in solidarity with the victims.

"We need a guarantee from the management for our safety in working underground," said Ronald Waromi, an action organizer.

The company said 39 employees and contract workers were inside a classroom in the tunnel undergoing safety training when the accident happened. Three workers escaped unhurt on their own.

Instructor Kristian Sitepu was standing in front of the classroom explaining rescue procedures during an emergency when he heard rumbling above the ceiling.

When rocks started falling, he and those seated in the front row ran and managed to escape unhurt. But he said others were trapped after the only exit quickly filled with rocks and soil. Some were hit and crushed while trying to get out. He said rescuers arrived a few minutes later with jacks to try to stabilize the tunnel.

Sihite said the training room was built 15 years ago, and about 80 per cent of it is now covered by debris.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"They were trapped and shouting for help ... but I couldn't do anything."

Kristian Sitepu, safety-training instructor, who was explaining emergency procedures when the when the accident happened

Workers gather in solidarity for colleagues who were trapped after the roof of a tunnel collapsed at a Freeport Indonesia mine in Mimika, Indonesia, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

New York City

Columbia moves to change whites-only scholarship

Columbia University is seeking to change the terms of a fellowship that can only be awarded to white students.

The Lydia C. Roberts Graduate Fellowship stipulates that money be given only to "a person of the Caucasian race." Roberts left Columbia most of her estate in 1920 and created the fellowship, which also stipulates fellows must be from Iowa.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Thailand

Boy, 3, dies after being left in hot car for 7 hours

Police say a 3-year-old boy has died in Thailand after a teacher left him in a car for seven hours.

Police said Wednesday that Suriyakan "Potter" Pakan was abandoned in a car that a teacher used to transport students.

High temperatures Wednesday exceeded 30 C.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

It's not easy getting greens

People push each other to get fresh produce as Greek market vendors hand out free food during a protest in Athens on Wednesday, as the union of Greek farmers markets went on strike. Protesters set up stands and started distributing vegetables to a fast-growing crowd. The market vendors are the latest professional group in Greece to protest a sweeping market liberalization drive demanded by rescue creditors.

THANASSIS STAVRAKIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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metro

U.S. court denies asylum to Christian home-schoolers

Freedom of religion. Couple fled Germany in 2008 to avoid their country's compulsory attendance law

A U.S. appeals court has denied asylum to a Christian family who fled Germany so they could home-school their children, ruling that immigration laws do not grant a safe haven to people everywhere who face restrictions that would be prohibited under the U.S. constitution.

Many American home-school families and evangelical Christians have taken up the cause of Uwe and Hannelore Romeike, who faced fines and the threat of losing custody of their children because they refused to comply with Germany's compulsory school-attendance law.

In 2008, the Romeikes moved from Germany to the U.S. and applied for asylum. That request was initially granted by an immigration judge in 2010. But the Board of Immigration Appeals overturned that ruling, and the Romeikes appealed.

On Tuesday, a three-member panel of U.S. 6th Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that the Romeikes do not meet the criteria for asylum.

"The question is not whether Germany's policy violates the American Constitution, whether it violates the parameters of an international treaty or whether Germany's law is a good idea. It is whether the Romeikes have established the prerequisites of an asylum claim — a well-founded fear of persecution on account of a protected ground," the court wrote. In this case, that protected ground is religious freedom.

The court found that the German government treats all truants the same, regardless of their reasons for not attending school.

Worried about witches

In court documents, the U.S. government described the Romeikes' objections to the government-approved schools as vague.

- Uwe Romeike claimed that the schools taught witchcraft based on a game played by classmates of his wife when she was in school "that involved pushing chairs and glasses around and dangling a pendulum."

The Home School Legal Defence Association represented the Romeikes in court. Mike Donnelly, its director of international relations, said the Romeikes planned to appeal.

"The court ignored the evidence that Germany targets people for religious or philosophical reasons," Donnelly said, referring to a 2003 German Supreme Court decision that found the compulsory attendance law served a legitimate government interest of counteracting the development of parallel societies.

Uwe Romeike and his wife Hannelore teach their children at their Morristown, Tenn, home in 2009. WADE PAYNE/AP FILE

The 6th Circuit considered this argument but dismissed it, stating, "Any compulsory-attendance law could be said to have this effect." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Obama urges action in military sex-assault cases

U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel speaks during a news conference at the Pentagon on April 29. EVAN VUCCI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Defence Secretary Chuck Hagel informed U.S. President Barack Obama of the latest sexual-assault allegations against a soldier who was assigned to prevent such crimes — the second soldier involved in similar accusations — and the president made clear he wants that behaviour stopped, officials said Wednesday.

Hagel spokesman George Little told reporters that Hagel's staff is working on a written directive that will spell out steps aimed at resolving a problem that has outraged lawmakers.

"The president has made very clear his expectations on this issue," Little said, adding that Hagel told Obama on Tuesday about allegations facing an army sergeant at Fort Hood, Texas, who is facing allegations involving three women, according to a defence official.

The accused soldier, whose name has not been made public, was assigned as a co-ordinator of a sexual-assault prevention program at Fort Hood. He has been suspended from all duties but has not been charged with any crime.

Little said Hagel and Obama see the sexual assault problem in the same light.

"They expect prevention measures at all times, and when prevention isn't achieved, then both expect accountability," Little said.

The case, along with another one involving an air-force officer, highlights a problem that is drawing increased scrutiny in Congress and expressions of frustration from Hagel.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A growing concern

The Pentagon is struggling with what it calls an increasing number of sexual assaults across the military.

- The Defence Department estimates that as many as 26,000 military members may have been sexually assaulted in 2012.
- Of those, fewer than 3,400 reported the incidents.

Ohio

Murder trial rests on blinks of paralyzed victim

A video showing a paralyzed shooting victim blinking his eyes is expected to be key in a murder trial as jurors consider whether the blinks were responses to detectives' questions.

Jurors failed to reach a verdict after about two hours Tuesday and were scheduled to resume deliberations Wednesday in the trial of 35-year-old Ricardo Woods of Cincinnati. Woods is accused of shooting David Chandler in the face and neck in 2010. Chandler was left paralyzed from the neck down, and died about two weeks later.

Attorneys have argued about whether Chandler knew what he was doing when police told him to blink three times for yes and twice for no as they questioned him about the person who shot him. Prosecutors told jurors in closing arguments Tuesday that Chandler clearly identified Woods as his shooter, while the defence said the blinks weren't conclusive.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

California

12-year-old boy charged in sister's stabbing death

The parents of an 8-year-old California girl who was stabbed to death believed she was fine when they made a 911 call to authorities from another location.

A recording released Tuesday indicates a woman called 911 after getting a call about a mystery intruder from the girl's 12-year-old brother, who was arrested Saturday in connection with the killing.

The caller, who said she was the girl's mother, said the children, including Leila Fowler, were OK. She was not at home at the time.

"My children are at home alone and a man just ran out of our house. My older son was in the bathroom and my daughter started screaming. He came out and a man was in the house," the caller says in the call made April 27. "They said they're OK."

She added, "My daughter is freaking out right now."

In fact, Leila Fowler was dying of stab wounds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

‘I am broken because part of me is gone’

Tim Bosma case. Wife makes anguished speech on same day accused is slapped with murder charge

Sharlene Bosma, the wife of Tim Bosma, who was killed after posting his truck for sale online, holds back tears at a news conference in Ancaster, Wednesday. DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

The young daughter of an Ontario man who was killed after posting his truck for sale online and taking a test drive with two men will grow up knowing how deeply he was loved, the man’s wife vowed Wednesday.

Sharlene Bosma laid her anguish bare in a tearful public statement one day after police revealed that her husband Tim Bosma, 32, who had been missing since the test drive on May 6, is dead.

“Yesterday was the most horrifying day of my life and people tell me I have been so strong, and all I know is that I have a beautiful two-year-old girl at home who now needs her mommy more than ever and needs her mommy to hold it together, so I know that I cannot fall apart,” she said.

“But I am broken because part of me is gone.”

Police announced Tuesday that Bosma’s remains were found in Waterloo Region, about 50 kilometres away from the Hamilton home he shared with his wife and young daughter.

His body was burned beyond recognition, police said. Still, Bosma said she was thankful.

“This was not our desired outcome,” she said. “But I am still grateful to the police for finding him.”

Bosma last saw her husband when he left on a test drive with two men who had contacted him about the pickup truck he had posted for sale online. Hamilton police believe he was killed some time that night, though they don’t know where. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Background

A fateful online classified ad

Murder victim Tim Bosma posted his 2007 black Dodge Ram truck for sale online — including on the classifieds website Kijiji.

But Kijiji says that the murder suspects would not have been able to contact Bosma through its site.

Bosma did not reveal any personal information on the site and his ad did not receive replies. Police announced Tuesday that Bosma’s charred remains were found. Dellen Millard, 27, was originally charged with forcible confinement and theft over $5,000. A charge of first-degree murder was added Wednesday. Police are searching for at least two other suspects.
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Hinton, Alberta

RCMP charge woman with aiding suicide following discovery of body

Mounties in Alberta have charged a woman with helping another woman commit suicide.

RCMP say a body was found last Friday inside a vehicle parked in front of the hospital in Hinton, about 300 kilometres west of Edmonton.

A 53-year-old woman who was admitted to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries was charged this week with aiding suicide.

Court documents show the dead person was also a woman, but her age was not disclosed.

A publication ban prevents identifying the pair.

The accused has been remanded in custody and is to appear in court in Hinton, Alberta on June 5.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cleveland. Castro to plead not guilty; court will hear of his innocence: Lawyers

Ariel Castro THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The lawyers for a man accused of keeping three women in captivity for about a decade say he will plead not guilty.

Attorneys Craig Weintraub and Jay Schlachet told WKYC-TV that suspect Ariel Castro has been portrayed as a “monster” in the media, and after meeting with him Tuesday they don’t see him that way.

Weintraub says it’s unfair and offensive that “the media and the community want to demonize this man before they know the whole story.”

Schlachet says details of Castro’s innocence “will be disclosed as the case progresses.”

Weintraub also says Castro “loves dearly” the child he fathered with alleged kidnap victim Amanda Berry while she was in captivity.

Castro is charged with kidnapping and raping Berry, Gina DeJesus and Michelle Knight.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Poker star’s a baccarat cheat: Casino operator

A major casino operator is accusing Phil Ivey, an American who is one of the world’s top professional poker players, of amassing millions of dollars in winnings by cheating at baccarat.

Court papers filed in Britain’s High Court by the Malaysia-based Genting Group say that Ivey and an accomplice successfully used a scam to rack up winnings of roughly 7.8 million pounds ($11.9 million) last summer.

The case has rocked the world of professional poker by pitting one of its most charismatic young stars against a major resort and casino operator. The game in question took place on Aug. 20-21 at Crockfords, one of London’s oldest and most respected casinos.

The long-simmering dispute was first made public last month when Ivey filed a claim against the Genting Group in London’s High Court. His lawyers said the casino refused to pay Ivey the money he had won playing baccarat at Crockfords, which is part of the Genting Group.

The casino responded in court Tuesday by accusing Ivey of cheating, saying his winnings were invalid because they were “based upon illegal acts.”
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Phil Ivey THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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This photo shows an Android display at the Google I/O developers' conference in June 2012. This year's version of the conference kicked off on Wednesday in San Francisco. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Google unveils music streaming service

San Francisco. Raft of announcements at developers' conference also cover Google Plus features, Maps redesign

Google's sixth annual conference for software developers opened Wednesday with a chance for the company to showcase its latest services. Announcements include a new phone, new tools for online games, a music-streaming service, a range of features for the Google Plus social network — including tools for sharing and enhancing photos — and a redesign of Google Maps.

The audience of about 6,000 people at Google I/O includes engineers and entrepreneurs who develop applications and other features that can make smartphones and tablets more appealing.

Google's All Access streaming service will allow Android users to listen to their favourite songs and artists for a monthly fee. It launched in the U.S. Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

North Pole nations. Canada takes over Arctic Council

Sweden's Foreign Minister Carl Bildt hands the gavel symbolizing the chairmanship of the Arctic Council to Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq in Kiruna, Sweden, on Wednesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canada has officially taken over leadership of a newly broadened circumpolar world, beginning a two-year stint as head of an eight-member group of countries around the North Pole that is the primary international forum on northern issues.

"The time has come to embrace the Arctic and realize the tremendous potential and opportunities it has to offer for all of us," said federal Health Minister and Nunavut MP Leona Aglukkaq, who will serve as Arctic Council chairwoman during Canada's leadership.

Aglukkaq will be working with a larger group of countries interested in an increasingly accessible, resource-rich North. At its meeting in Kiruna, Sweden, on Wednesday, the council expanded the number of non-Arctic countries allowed to monitor discussions. THE CANADIAN PRESS

WWF perspective

- The World Wildlife Fund, which has observer status, said the council is slowly making progress. The group praised agreements on oil spills and biodiversity and talks to strengthen shipping regulations. But it pointed out a deal on black carbon, or soot, was blocked and there has been little progress on climate change.

Real estate

Home sales down 3% from year ago

Canadian home prices continued to rise in April even as year-over-year sales fell three per cent, according to the latest industry data that has left economists divided over whether the market can count on a soft landing.

"I think some people are perhaps confused by the fact that we've seen a drop in sales but prices haven't fallen yet," said David Madani, an economist at Capital Economics.

"But that's normal because prices respond to sales activity with a lag," said Madani, who believes it's still too early to rule out a sharp correction in what until recently has been an overheated market. The real test will be the summer months when the housing market typically heats up, he added. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Saskatchewan

Viterra plans $20M upgrade at four grain terminals

Viterra Inc. says it will spend more than $20 million to upgrade four of its grain terminals in Saskatchewan, where the company has its roots.

The firm will increase rail capacity at all four locations while the operations in White Star and Humboldt, Sask., will also get more storage. The company said storage capacity at White Star, north of Prince Albert, will be tripled while capacity at the grain elevator in Humboldt will be doubled.

The company's Waldron and Ituna facilities as well as Humboldt are served by Canadian National Railway while White Star is on the Carlton Trail Railway. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market Minute

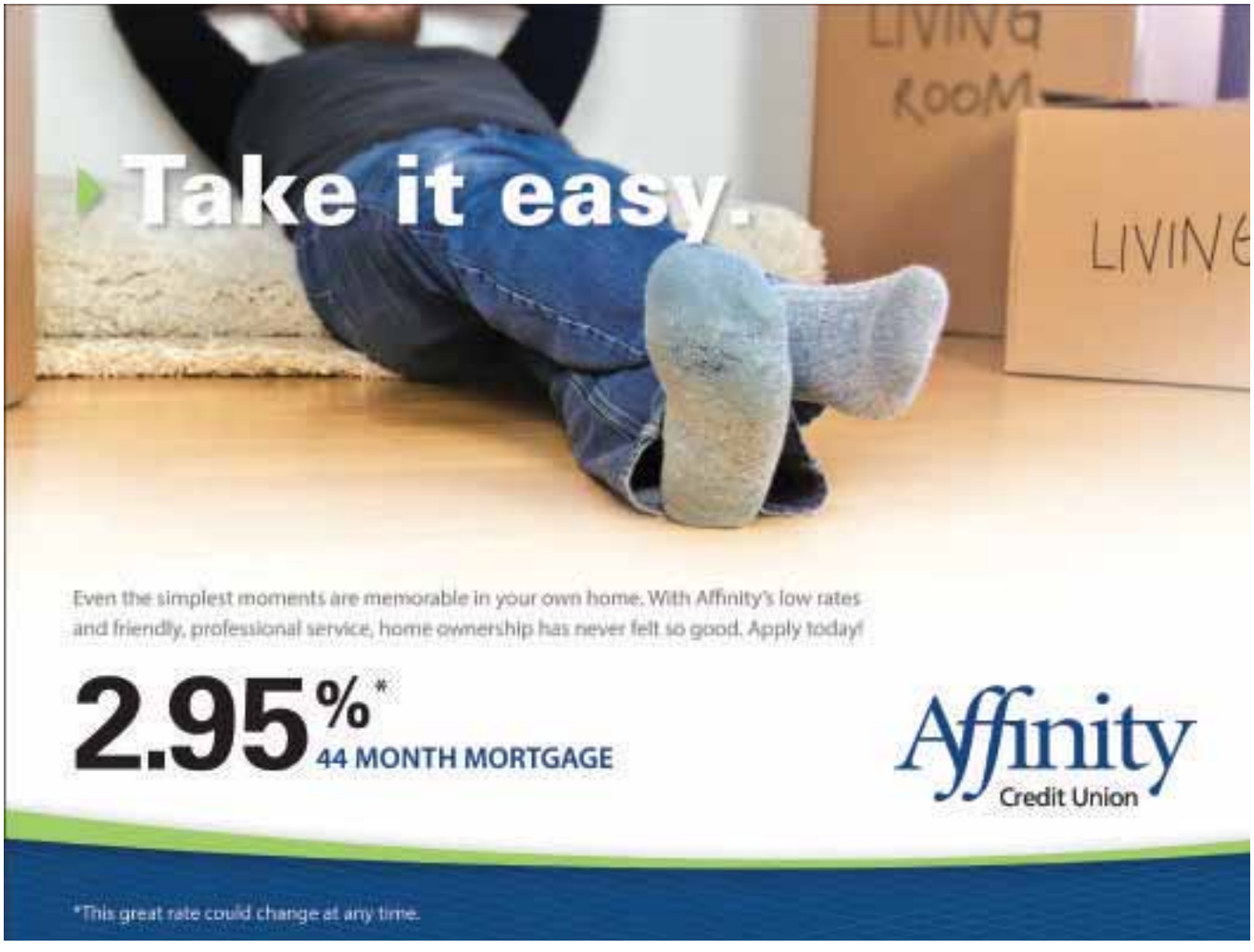
DOLLAR 98.31¢ (-0.02¢)

TSX 12,473.65 (-103.40)

OIL $94.30 US (+9¢)

GOLD $1,396.20 US (-$28.30)

Natural gas: $4.07 US (+5¢)
Dow Jones: 15,275.69 (+60.44)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ROMANTICIZING YOUR ROAD TRIP

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

Time to hit the road, Jack!

The Victoria Day weekend is the unofficial kickoff of Canada's summer (because we're sure as he-- not waiting for real summer) and for me that has always meant road trips.

It could mean a jaunt to a cottage to celebrate Queen Victoria's glorious reign (Her Majesty was known for her gardening, cottage cleaning and barbecue skills). Or it could be a longer journey this summer to see some of this country's most important roadside fruits, such as the Oxford, N.S., blueberry.

Regardless of your travelling tastes, here are a few planning tips to help any road trip go more smoothly, potholes notwithstanding.

Six tips from a roads scholar

Plan (or don't plan) to your liking. If you're the type of person who prefers every part of your trip planned out to the letter, take advantage of modern technology and use Google Maps. If you're more of an adventurer and prefer to have no idea where you're going, use Apple Maps.

Choose your travelling partners carefully. For example, don't take your children. On one trip when I was younger I repeatedly sang Sloop John B ("This is the worst trip I've ever been on") to let my parents know the all-expenses-paid road trip they were treating me to was not living up to my exacting 14-year-old standards. I'm still mad at them, because in retrospect they should have left me on the side of the road to die. They would have been right to do it.

Rent a well-equipped vehicle. That way if you can't find a perfect travelling partner, you can still get companionship with the help of the OnStar button. "Is there something broken in the vehicle, sir?" "Only the driver, ma'am. Only the driver." The call disconnects a lot for some reason, so you'll need to keep calling back.

Prepare for emergencies. Be ready for flat tires. All motorists should carry with them a vulcanized rubber patch, a hand pump, rubber cement, and a wading pool filled with enough water to detect a leak in a 17-inch radial.

Do not forget that you are sitting on a pack of Junior Mints and grinding the melted chocolate into the fabric of your rental car. I can't stress this one enough. I can say based on personal research that in 2012 this statistically happened 100 per cent of the time. So be prepared.

Take the road less travelled. By that I mean go to New Brunswick. My home province needs it and will be thrilled to see you, once the shock wears off. Toronto's tourism slogan is "We've been expecting you," which is very apt for Canada's super villain. By contrast, New Brunswick's is "For the love of God please stop the car." If you go you'll be popular and may become an attraction yourself.

And those are my travelling tips. I hope you find them helpful.

Now if you'll excuse me, I have a romantic road-trip weekend planned.

Mrs. OnStar's going to love it when she finds out.

ZOOM

Ghana's space dreams take flight

CHRISTIAN THOMPSON/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOS

Satellite is just the beginning

Students use a balloon to launch Deployable CanSat, a soda-can sized model of a satellite, at All Nations University in Koforidua, Ghana, Wednesday. It went aloft to a height of 165 metres and then came back down attached to a parachute.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The project doesn't look like much, yet in this developing West African country, ambitious organizers see it as a sign of bigger things to come.

Only direction to go is up

"Some wonder why we couldn't concentrate on our problems of water, sanitation, health, all those things. I categorically disagree.... Space will help African countries who are very serious with it to leapfrog their development because it cuts across all sectors of the economy."

Prosper Kofi Ashilevi, director of the Ghana Space Science and Technology Center, which recently celebrated its one-year anniversary

"We hope that this practical demonstration of what can be done by students like them will generate more enthusiasm, fire up their imagination to come up with more creative things, and show that it's possible that they'll one day be able to launch their own real satellite into orbit," he added.

Click bait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

You know what's the worst? The terror of discussing your favourite shows the next day when there's always someone within earshot to give you a tongue-lashing about spoilers. Why should you pay for them being laggards? Try these sites for sharp recaps and witty discussion about the best TV.

The AV Club

The Onion's sister site makes it easy to decide what shows to catch up on by attaching a letter grade to each review. Intrigued by Twitter chat about The Americans? Check its report card here. (avclub.com)

Grantland

Molly Lambert's take on whatever bleak note Mad Men ended on pairs with Andy Greenwald's funny and insightful pieces on Game of Thrones for Monday afternoon's best one-two punch. (grantland.com)

Vulture

Easily the snarkiest of this lot, Vulture's writers take particular delight in savaging shows that secretly drive you crazy, too. Ahem, The Walking Dead. The hidden gems are the hilarious American Idol recaps, which are much more fun than the actual episodes. (vulture.com)

Comments

RE: $84 Gelato, And Other Tourist Trap Horror Stories, published May 15

Wow, perhaps people should visit natural features of the planet instead of man-made structures! It barely costs anything to hike or cycle unless you prefer a guide. Can't these tourists do the money conversion to figure out what they're really paying? If people were smart, they would just walk away!

Skippy76 posted to metronews.ca

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Angelina Jolie had a mastectomy after finding out via gene tests she is predisposed to cancer. Would you do the same?

@halla_p: As a mother of two young ones ... You betcha!!!

@GACat: Yes, I would do the same thing. In a heartbeat.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: saskatoonletters@metronews.ca

metro

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SCENE 2

They searched to the ends of the earth and found this man

Gregory Burke to head Remai. NZ native did stints at Wellington City Art Gallery, T.O.'s Power Plant

BACKSTAGE PASS
Simon Hiatt
saskatoon@metronews.ca

The search for an executive director and CEO for the Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan took board members, quite literally, to the ends of the earth.

While he has spent the past several years working in eastern Canada, Gregory Burke, the man who will be in charge of the gallery when it opens its doors, hails originally from New Zealand.

"Our goal was to launch a search that could reach nationally and internationally, because we really wanted to find someone who brought credibility and connections at those levels," said president and chair of the board of trustees Jason Aebig.

While they may have had to go a ways to find him, that goal seems to be accomplished with the hiring of Burke.

He is the former director of the largest contemporary art museum in New Zealand and also was the chief curator at the Wellington City Art Gallery, before being lured to Toronto to serve as director of The Power Plant, another renowned modern art facility.

2015 opening

The Remai Art Gallery of Saskatchewan is slated to open in two years at River Landing in Saskatoon. While it is a major undertaking, board chair Jason Aebig says it has come together relatively quickly as funding was secured 19 months ago.

- "To us (the hiring of Burke) is sort of the final piece of the puzzle. We had a vision for a new building, we wanted a world-class collection and we've got that with the Picasso collection, and we wanted a senior leader who could match all of that."

Most recently he has been doing freelance work as an independent consultant, curator and writer, but was intrigued by the possibilities of returning to a permanent job.

"There are certain aspects about being independent that are particularly enjoyable after you've been working in institutions. So I've been very choosy about going back into that type of role," Burke said in a telephone interview.

"I saw this position advertised for the CEO job in Saskatoon and was struck by it for a number of reasons. The ambition of it, I know and respect the architect and it's a visionary project and quite frankly the most exciting thing happening in the visual arts in Canada right now."

The international search for an executive director and CEO of the Remai Art Gallery ended with Gregory Burke. SUPPLIED

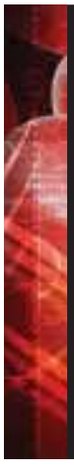
Burke has secured permanent residency status and will be moving to the province next month, but has already gotten to work determining his vision for the facility.

"This project is going to be at an international level," Burke said.

"But at the same time it's got the community behind it and that's really important. It has to engage with the community."

While the facility and its already impressive works of art, which include a $20 million dollar Picasso collection, wowed Burke, he says he has been equally charmed by the community itself.

"When I mention to people I'm moving to Saskatoon there's an immediate warm response. People love Saskatoon and that was certainly significant in my decision as well."



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Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

Brad proud Angelina went public about mastectomy

No one is as moved by Angelina Jolie's decision to go public about her double mastectomy than her partner, Brad Pitt. "I'm quite emotional about it, of course," he tells USA Today. "She could have stayed absolutely private about it and I don't think anyone would have been none the wiser with such good results. But it was really important to her to share the story and that others would understand it doesn't have to be a scary thing. In fact, it can be an empowering thing and something that makes you stronger and us stronger."

Amy Winehouse ALL IMAGES GETTY

Bronze Amy Winehouse statue planned

Amy Winehouse's parents have enlisted artist Scott Eaton to sculpt a life-size bronze statue of the late singer to be displayed at London music venue the Roadhouse, which happens to be the last place Winehouse performed before her death, according to E! News. "She's going to be installed on the balcony in the Roundhouse in the Camden area, because Camden is her home where she lived," Eaton said. "So it's not going to be ... cheesy. She's not with a microphone or anything like that."

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Beyoncé says sorry to Belgium for cancelled gig

Beyoncé felt so bad about canceling a gig in Antwerp, Belgium — on doctors orders because she was suffering from "dehydration and exhaustion" — that she posted a handwritten apology on her website. "To my dearest fans in Antwerp, I've never postponed a show in my life. It was very hard for me. I promise I will make it up very soon. I'm sorry if I disappointed you," Beyoncé wrote. "Thank you for your concern. I'm feeling much better now and I'm ready to give you a great show. See you tonight." The singer's health concerns almost immediately sparked rumours that she is pregnant with her second child.

Twitter

@ewan_mcgregor
It's a beautiful day. Busy and not. Exciting things on the horizon. And where I stand – is pretty lovely.

@GarryShandling
The photographer told me today that "head shots" are not in my acting range.

@daxshephard1
As happy as I am about the renewal, I was kinda looking forward to getting the Parenthood Movie funded on kick starter.

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The fashionable gent's favourite fine-clothing purveyor brings one of literature's most charismatic and complicated characters to the world's closet.

METRO WORLD NEWS

The great Gatsby getup

Silver screen style. Brooks Brothers GM Deepak Chopra teaches the modern man to mix some movie magic into his wardrobe

It isn't a fashion film if it doesn't have a clothing line attached to it. Brooks Brothers is taking the menswear looks they provided for the screen to the store with its Great Gatsby-inspired collection. Yep, that means you can get a hold of Jay Gatsby's 20s-style tailoring.

"Brooks Brothers is mentioned numerous times in Fitzgerald's writings as a representation of the ultimate gentleman's purveyor of fine clothing to the American man of distinction," says Catherine Martin, the costume designer behind the film's 500-strong wardrobe, in a statement to the press.

Metro recently had the opportunity to speak with Deepak Chopra, general manager of Brooks Brothers at Royal Bank Plaza in Toronto, to find out about the collection and his must-have suggestions.

The tuxedo

Every man should own a tuxedo, but how many of us do? At the current price point, Chopra says now is the time to invest.

JACKET, $935; TROUSERS, $272; BACKLESS VEST $196; BAT WING BOW TIE, $60; TUXEDO SHIRT, $148.

The cardigan

The bottle-green shawl cardigan — seen in the movie — is another timeless piece to add to your wardrobe, Chopra suggests.

CARDIGAN, $168

The linen suit

Perfect for summer, the linen suit offers a sense of relaxed ease. It is available in a number of colours and patterns — pink-stripped, ivory, light brown — and the pants can be worn with suspenders or belts.

JACKETS, $725; PANTS $328

The waist jacket

While they look good paired with the linen suits, Chopra notes the waist jackets can add a dapper air to a pair of chinos or jeans.

WAIST JACKETS, $328

BROOKSBROTHERS.COM

The tuxedo's backless vest features an art deco Greek key design.

The collection also features two regatta jackets; one with burgundy stripes and the other edged in gold, blue and burgundy. $875.

Chopra draws attention to the shoes in the collection, which include a wingtip (shown), black patent leather, and a white and brown loafer. $385 to $655

Madame of the movies

Tiffany is also toasting the Jazz Age with its new Ziegfeld collection, based on the brand's archival jewelry designs from the 1920s.

Ziegfeld Cuff Links

Named for New York's legendary Ziegfeld Theatre, this collection captures the style and sophistication of the 1920s.

CUFF LINKS IN STERLING SILVER WITH BLACK ENAMEL FINISH. $385

Ziegfeld Collection Pearl Earrings

An elegant tribute to the Roaring Twenties. Earrings in sterling silver with freshwater cultured pearls.

PEARLS, 9-10 MM. $495

TIFANNY.CA

EDITOR'S PICK

The club collar

Looking to stand out? Kovalum's Bradford blue and white club shirt not only harkens back to old-school dapperness, it will also set you apart from the point-collared crowd at the office this summer.

$124.99, KOVALUM.COM

Three graphic, go-with-anything tees

To spruce up a blah wardrobe day, just add jeans and stir.

KENYA HUNT
Metro World News in London

COS
Open back print top
$89, cosstores.com

Zara
African print tee
$30, zara.com

Marni
Graphic tee
$400,
netaporter.com

One-minute miracle

Pantene Pro-V Ultimate 10 BB Crème $8, pantene.ca

"The latest in the BB cream craze takes a good idea even further. The multi-tasking potion delivers smoother, softer, shinier, possibly happier and altogether healthier locks, thanks to a supercharged leave-in formula. For those extended, in-between-haircuts stretches, the cream's also an effective remedy for split ends. And did we mention it smells great too?"

Ashley Kowalewski
The Kit.ca

FOR MORE FASHION AND BEAUTY NEWS YOU CAN USE, CATCH UP WITH THE KIT AT THEKIT.CA

The Kit

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Emma
Grad Student
Age: 25

What she's wearing
Rag & Bone shirt, Zara shoes and blazer, Material Girl pants, Rebecca Minkoff bag, KBL sunglasses.

Her inspiration
I'm inspired by street style and fashion blogs. Right now, I love the marriage of spring-floral and colour with simple classic pieces.

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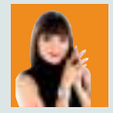

JEANNE SPACE
Jeanne Beker
life@metronews.ca

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Modernize your backyard this season

Upgraded decks using MicroPro Sienna look great right away and updated outdoor furnishings, like this daybed, make the backyard a comfortable and functional extension of your home. BOB GUNDU

Outdoor. Four tips from celebrity landscape designer Carson Arthur just in time for May long weekend

We all have our spring backyard rituals to help create the perfect summer retreat, but sometimes you want to do a little more to upgrade your space. Maybe your deck needs a little love or you're just looking to bring new life to your outdoor spaces.

No matter what your backyard ambition is this summer, here are the top four outdoor improvements I'm going to be doing in my own spaces.

1. Make room for veggies and herbs

I'm always encouraging homeowners to remove a strip of grass and replace it with a veggie and herb garden.

Lawns suck up more water, fertilizers, insecticides, herbicides and fungicides than anything else on our properties. Growing veggies is lower maintenance, convenient and still gives you that green backyard look. I'm trying some new varieties of lettuce, heirloom tomatoes, Thai basil and zucchini, for the blossoms. Growing your own food is satisfying and you know exactly what you are eating and where it came from because you grew it yourself.

Plus, this fits in perfectly with the local eating movement. What's more local than your own backyard?

2. Resurface your deck with a wood that doesn't require staining so you can enjoy your backyard sooner and with a lot less effort

Maintaining the look of your wooden deck is important, but the ritual of sanding and staining can become overwhelming every spring. Fortunately, new technology by MicroPro Sienna takes a lot of the work out of deck maintenance.

I'll be using MicroPro Sienna for my new cottage deck, this environmentally friendly alternative to the classic pressure-treated wood comes ready to install in a rich cedar tone, can be used in water and works well with aluminum fasteners and details.

This new type of pressure-treated wood is versatile for any outdoor project. It is going to be perfect at my cottage, and all of my guests will think I spent a lot on cedar.

3. Use garden art to update your outdoor spaces and solve some of your garden dilemmas

Some spaces in the garden just won't grow plants. My fans and clients always ask for different options, but nothing seems to work. Why not add something that looks great and requires no care? My favourite garden art includes metal sculptures that look great when they rust and wooden obelisks that I can grow vines on.

Other materials that work well outdoors include mirrors, glass, terra-cotta pots and jars and handmade pottery. Not only is there no maintenance, art in the garden is an easy way to have a creative space that is uniquely yours.

4. Bring the indoors out

Outdoor furniture is no longer about striped or floral pillows on a patio set. The latest outdoor furniture uses stain and water resistant knitted fabrics, graphic prints and bold motifs to mimic the look and feel of its indoor cousins. With these stunning new options, every homeowner can create their dream outdoor room. I am stepping it up on the patio this year by investing in a resin wicker and aluminum set, which is rustproof and made from recycled plastic. Stylish and eco-friendly all at the same time!

Be smart about the choices you are going to make this year in your own outdoor spaces. Think about the way you want to spend your summer days. Make choices that allow you to have the quality of life you deserve.

Carson Arthur

When not in the dirt with his eco-friendly landscape design company, Carson stays busy building, planting, writing or designing as a featured guest on CityLine and Steven & Chris. You can check him out at carsonarthur.com.

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PLEASE QUOTE: "Sales Representative - Saskatoon" in the subject line.
All submissions will be treated as confidential.

metro

Fish delights with cabbage and pico de gallo and cream sauce — oh my!

Baja, the peninsula of Mexico located south of California, is famous for its fish tacos, which are gaining popularity around the globe. These lightly fried fish delights are layered with cabbage, cream sauce and pico de gallo salsa.

1. Mexican White Sauce: In a small bowl, combine mayonnaise, yogurt and lime juice. Cover and refrigerate for at least 2 hours or for up to 24 hours.

2. In a large bowl, combine tomatoes, green onions, jalapenos, serrano chiles, onion and cilantro. Add lime juice and mix. Transfer to airtight container and refrigerate, stirring occasionally for one hour or up to 24 hours. Add salt just to taste before serving.

3. Batter: In a large bowl, combine flour, beer and salt. Mix well to a thick consistency.

4. Tacos: Rinse fish and pat dry with paper towel. Cut crosswise into 2.5-cm (1-inch) wide strips.

5. Fill a deep fryer or deep skillet with 2.5 cm (1 inch) of oil and heat to 180 C (350 F). Using tongs, dredge fish pieces in batter and gently place in oil. Deep-fry 4 pieces at a time, turning once, until golden brown, about 1 minute per side. Drain on paper towels. Discard any excess batter.

6. In a griddle or skillet over medium-high heat, heat each tortilla on each side until soft and pliable. Wrap in foil to keep warm until ready to use. To build tacos, divide fish equally among warm tortillas. Top with cabbage, Mexican white sauce and pico de gallo. Fold tortillas in half.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ RECIPES ON THIS PAGE APPEAR IN 200 EASY MEXICAN RECIPES: AUTHENTIC RECIPES FROM BURRITOS TO ENCHILADAS BY KELLEY CLEARY COFFEEN (ROBERT ROSE INC. 2013).

Ingredients

Mexican White Sauce
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) mayonnaise
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) plain yogurt
- Juice of 1 lime

Pico de gallo
- 4 tomatoes, seeded and diced
- 4 green onions, green parts only, minced
- 3 jalapeno peppers, 2 serrano chile peppers, seeded and minced
- 1 onion, finely chopped
- 2 tbsp minced cilantro
- juice of 2 limes
- kosher salt

Batter
- 250 ml (1 cup) all-purpose flour
- 175 ml (3/4 cup) light beer
- 5 ml (1 tsp) kosher salt

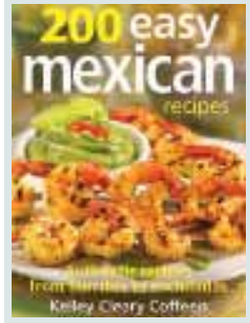
Tacos
- 750 g (1 1/2 lb) skinless cod or tilapia fillets
- Vegetable oil
- 8 flour tortillas
- 250 ml (1 cup) each shredded red and green cabbage

Fresh Baja Fish Tacos

This recipe serves eight. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

Cookbook of the Week

Mexican simplified



Using authentic Mexican recipes as her inspiration, Kelley Cleary Coffeen releases her book 200 Easy Mexican Recipes.

Made with ingredients easily found at local grocery stores, the dishes featured in the book are quick to make, easy to serve and affordable.

Among the aromatic and flavourful dishes found in the book are: Shrimp Ceviche, Green Chile and Chicken Tacos, Shredded Beef Chimichanga, Burrito Bowls, and Caramel Flan. **METRO**

Chicken and Lime Soup

This hearty chicken soup has a light citrusy flavour that makes it especially good for summer meals. Layers of garlic and lime embrace the fresh avocado garnish

1. In a large skillet, heat 15 ml (1 tbsp) of the oil over medium-high heat. Add chicken and cook, turning once, until no longer pink inside, 6 to 8 minutes per side. Transfer chicken to a cutting board and let cool.

2. In a large pot, heat remaining oil over medium heat. Add onion, garlic and tomatoes. Cover and cook until onion is softened, 4 to 6 minutes. Add chicken broth and lime juice.

3. Dice cooked chicken and add to pot. Cover and bring to a boil over medium heat. Reduce heat to low and simmer for 10 minutes. Ladle into individual bowls and garnish with equal amounts of tortilla chips, avocado and green onion.

Ingredients
- 30 ml (2 tbsp) olive oil
- 4 boneless skinless chicken breasts
- 250 ml (1 cup) chopped onion
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped
- 1.5 l (6 cups) chicken broth
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 500 ml (2 cups) broken corn tortilla chips
- 2 avocados, diced
- 4 green onions, green parts only, minced

Margarita moonlights as a dessert ingredient in pie

This recipe serves six. THE CANADIAN PRESS H/O

1. In bowl, using electric mixer, beat eggs and egg yolks until thick and pale, about 2 minutes. Continue mixing and add lime juice, condensed milk, margarita mix and food colouring and beat for 2 to 3 minutes.

2. Pour into pie shell and bake in 180 C (350 F) oven until centre is firm, about 25 minutes. Let cool completely. Cover and refrigerate at least 1 hour.

3. Just before serving, a medium chilled bowl, using electric mixer on medium-high speed, beat whipping cream and sugar until soft peaks form, 6 minutes. Serve slices of pie on individual plates topped with whipped cream.

Ingredients
- 2 eggs
- 2 egg yolks
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) freshly squeezed lime juice
- 1 can (300 ml/14 oz) sweetened condensed milk
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) liquid margarita mix
- 3 drops green food colouring
- 1 purchased vanilla-flavoured cookie crumb crust or graham-cracker crust (23 cm/9 inches)
- 250 ml (1 cup) heavy or whipping (35 per cent) cream
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) granulated sugar
- 1 lime, thinly sliced

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Make your home warm and inviting

Friends, family, neighbours. Take the craziness out of unexpected visits with a little planning

In the warmth and sunshine of summer, Canadians open their doors, get outside and take full advantage of the barbecue season. It seems like every weekend is packed full of visits with friends, families and neighbours.

In fact, it's often those unexpected visits that turn out to be the most fun, even if it causes a mad rush to tidy the house and dig into the cupboards to pull together a meal everyone will enjoy.

Take the craziness out of unexpected visits with a little advanced planning.

It's called seasonal pantry loading and it helps families to be ready for whatever their summer has to offer. Rather than buying what you need for a specific period of time, stock your pantry with those items that can easily be stored and help you provide a quick and tasty meal at a moment's notice.

For example, all-in-one serving kits are always good to have on hand — such as taco or salad kits. Have options ready so all you need is to add your core fresh ingredient and you have a meal.

As Linda Woolsey, vice-president research and development from ET TU Salad Kits, explains, "You want to make any visit memorable, whether planned or not. The one thing we've learned is that guests always appreciate great food. Being prepared with easy pantry items can help you focus on your guests, spend more time enjoying delicious meals and less time on stressing and cooking."

So next time you take a trip to the grocery store, consider those items that will help you be prepared anytime, any day.

NEWS CANADA

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Thyme-Rubbed Flank Steak with Balsamic Pearl Onions. NEWS CANADA

Recipe. Thyme-Rubbed Flank Steak with Balsamic Pearl Onions

According to a recent Grill-Watch survey, steak tops the list as the all time favourite food to grill, according to 44 per cent of respondents. This steak recipe from Weber's New Real Grilling cookbook is quick and easy to prepare and perfect for a weekday dinner.

Ingredients

- ¾ cup water
- ½ cup balsamic vinegar
- 2 tbsp honey
- 1½ tsp tomato paste
- 1 large bay leaf
- 1 package (14 ounces) frozen pearl onions, thawed
- 3½ tsp finely chopped fresh thyme leaves, divided
- 2 tsp kosher salt, divided
- 1 tsp freshly ground black pepper, divided
- 1 flank steak, about 1½ pounds and ¾-inch thick
- 1 tbsp extra-virgin olive oil
- Fresh thyme sprigs (optional)

1 In a large skillet combine the water, vinegar, honey, tomato paste, and bay leaf. Add the onions and bring to a simmer over medium-low heat. Cover and simmer for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Uncover the skillet and increase the heat to high. Boil until the liquid starts to thicken and is reduced to 4 to 5 tablespoons, about 5 minutes. Remove from the heat and stir in 1½ teaspoons of the thyme, 1 teaspoon of the salt, and ½ teaspoon of the pepper. The sauce will continue to thicken as it cools. If necessary, add water, 1 tablespoon at a time, to thin the mixture to your desired consistency.

2 Combine the remaining 2 teaspoons thyme, 1 teaspoon salt, and ½ teaspoon pepper. Brush the steak on both sides with the oil and season evenly with the spice mixture, pressing the spices into the meat. Allow the steak to stand at room temperature for 15 to 30 minutes before grilling.

3 Prepare the grill for direct cooking over medium heat (350 to 450 F).

4 Grill the steak over direct medium heat, with the lid closed, until cooked to your desired doneness, 8 to 10 minutes for medium rare, turning once or twice. Remove from the grill and let rest for 3 to 5 minutes. Cut the steak across the grain into thin slices. Serve immediately with the onions and their sauce. Garnish with thyme, if using. Serves four. Prep time: 15 minutes. Grilling time: 8 to 10 minutes.

NEWS CANADA

NHL

Oilers may get new arena after all

The on-again-off-again deal to build a new rink for the Edmonton Oilers is on — again.

City councillors and the Edmonton Oilers agreed Wednesday to split the cost of the final $30 million needed to green-light the new arena in the city's downtown in time for the 2016-17 season.

"This has been a long and difficult process," Mayor Stephen Mandel told councillors. "We need to make sure that we build a city that attracts and retains the younger generation."

Construction is to start next spring and the city plans to pay off some of its debt through increased tax revenues from shops and businesses expected to spring up around the arena.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Toews, Bergeron, Datsyuk named Selke finalists

Jonathan Toews of the Chicago Blackhawks, Patrice Bergeron of the Boston Bruins and Pavel Datsyuk of the Detroit Red Wings are finalists for the Frank J. Selke Trophy as the NHL's best defensive forward.

Toews, a Selke finalist for the second time, finished third in the NHL in plus-minus with a plus-28 rating.

Bergeron, who won last year, was the NHL's top face-off man this season at 62.1 per cent. He had a plus-24 rating.

Datsyuk, a three-time winner, tied with Toews for the league lead in takeaways with 56 and topped the Red Wings in plus-minus at plus-21. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

CFL

"He is excited about coming to Toronto. Once football starts, it will be all about football."

Argos GM Jim Barker on defensive lineman Khalif Mitchell, who resisted a trade to Toronto earlier in the off-season.

The Hawk has left the building

CFL. Roughriders defensive lineman Hawkins calls it a career

JEFF MACKEY
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Brent Hawkins announced his retirement from the CFL on Wednesday, about one month before the 2013 CFL pre-season is set to begin.

Hawkins was a veteran presence at the defensive lineman position for the Saskatchewan Roughriders since joining the team in April 2010.

Despite obvious talent at the position, Hawkins' time with the Riders was troubled by injuries. He missed the entire 2011 season after sustaining a shoulder injury.

"It was just taking longer and longer to recover and I didn't want to put this team in jeopardy," said Hawkins. "Every year I have been here I've had something go wrong with me and I'm getting to this phase in my life, almost being 30 years old, and having these shoulder injuries that keep coming at me."

Last season Hawkins played 14 regular season games with 24 defensive tackles and four sacks.

"He was a good player for us," said Riders GM Brendan Taman. "He was a good energy kind of guy and a really good teammate, but we have been talking for a couple weeks and have come to the conclusion he is going to pack it in."

Taman said there could be some moves in the coming weeks that will shake the team up a bit and make up for the absence of Hawkins on the Riders' defensive line.

Hawkins says he has planted roots in Regina and plans to stick around the Queen City in his retirement.

"I've stayed here every off-season since I came out here," said Hawkins. "I have really come to call this place home."

Roughriders defensive lineman Brent Hawkins leaps after a last-second win over the Blue Bombers last September in Winnipeg. Hawkins announced his retirement on Wednesday. JOHN WOODS/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Chicago goalie Corey Crawford made 20 saves on Wednesday night. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Red Wings swept away in Windy City

Johnny Oduya and Marcus Kruger scored in the third period, Corey Crawford made 20 saves and the Chicago Blackhawks beat the Detroit Red Wings 4-1 in the opener of their second-round playoff series Wednesday night.

Chicago dominated the final two periods in its first game in the Western Conference semifinals since it won the Stanley Cup in 2010. Marian Hossa scored the opening goal, and Patrick Sharp had an empty-netter and two assists to give him nine points in the playoffs.

Jimmy Howard finished with 38 stops in a terrific performance, but Detroit still lost to rival Chicago for the eighth straight time dating to last season.

The series resumes on Saturday afternoon at the United Center.

The 75th all-time playoff game between the Blackhawks and Red Wings was tied at 1 after two periods, and Howard made a great stop on a breakaway by Dave Bolland 4 1/2 minutes into the third.

Chicago kept working and went in front to stay on a heady play by Oduya. He drifted in from the point and sent Sharp's pass past Howard on the glove side with 12 minutes left. Kruger then jumped on a loose puck and sent a backhander into the upper right corner to make it 3-1.

That was more than enough for Crawford, who caught a break when Damien Brunner's rebound attempt went off the crossbar and straight down before it was swept away with about three minutes left.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Herd is the word at Memorial Cup

Mooseheads star forward Nathan MacKinnon skates with the President Cup after Halifax defeated the Baie-Comeau Drakkar 5-1 in Game 5 of the QMJHL final on Friday. Halifax plays its first game in the Memorial Cup on Saturday against the Portland Winterhawks. ANDREW VAUGHAN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Moosehead Mania. Halifax has trampled its QMJHL opponents this season but now face the best of the rest in the CHL

The Halifax Mooseheads spent the 2012-13 season believing that if they played up to their potential, the results would take care of themselves.

All that strategy produced was one of the most dominating regular seasons in Canadian Hockey League history.

Now after a near-perfect showing in the playoffs, the Herd are out to finish the job at the MasterCard Memorial Cup.

The country's No. 1-ranked team finished the regular season with a 58-6-4 record, posting the fewest losses in Quebec Major Junior Hockey League history and the second-fewest ever in the CHL.

And after going 16-1 in the QMJHL playoffs, the favourites from Halifax are primed to meet the best that the rest of the country has to offer at the tournament that runs from May 17 to 26 at Saskatoon's Credit Union Centre.

The Mooseheads are led by the dynamic duo of Jonathan Drouin and Nathan MacKinnon, who are both expected to be among the top picks at June's NHL draft.

The flashy forwards were in the spotlight all season along with Portland Winterhawks defenceman Seth Jones as scouts, media and fans debated who should go No. 1.

Ducharme says he sat down with both Drouin and MacKinnon to discuss the increased attention, but adds that the pair never lost focus of the team concept and the ultimate goal of bringing Halifax its first Memorial Cup title.

"As a team we can't control what people are thinking or saying ... scouts, media," Ducharme said in a recent phone interview. "We can only control what we can control. For Jonathan and Nathan it was the same. You can't control the rankings list or what the scouts are thinking. All you can do is work every day to get better."

The Mooseheads open the tournament on Saturday against Jones' Winterhawks, who are ranked No. 2 in the CHL.

The other two clubs participating at this year's Memorial Cup are the Ontario Hockey League champion London Knights (ranked No. 3 in the CHL) and the host Saskatoon Blades. Those teams open the tournament on Friday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

The winning formula

"We have a will to win, (pay) attention to detail and are willing to take a challenge and really go through it as a group."

Mooseheads coach Dominique Ducharme talks about his team's success this season

See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
Is it OK to be ambitious? Is it OK to do better than others? Of course it is and anyone who says otherwise is not to be trusted. People are not all the same and, to be blunt, you're better than most.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
After the events of the past few days, you may want to treat yourself gently over the next 24 hours. Give yourself time to unwind and assess the full implications of the changes that have been taking place.

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You may not understand why a certain person acts the way they do but that is no reason to hold it against them. People have different personalities. You have several yourself.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You must not agree to anything if you don't know for certain what it is going to cost. Someone with a persuasive manner will make a risky venture sound like it's a sure thing. Don't be fooled.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
When your instincts tell you one thing and friends tells you another, who do you trust? You trust your instincts, of course. Today's cosmic influences warn that people may not see things as clearly as you.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Not everything has a simple explanation and if you are smart you will dig to find out what has really been going on. Check both sides of the story.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Someone you live or work with believes you owe them something. They also believe they can sit back and let you do the work. Make sure they know that isn't going to happen.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Usually, if something feels good that's a sure sign that it is good. But today there is a real chance that what feels good could actually be bad for you. Whatever you do make sure it is done in moderation.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Don't believe everything you hear over the next 24 hours, not even if it comes from sources you know you can trust. Friends may not be trying to mislead you but they may have been misled themselves.

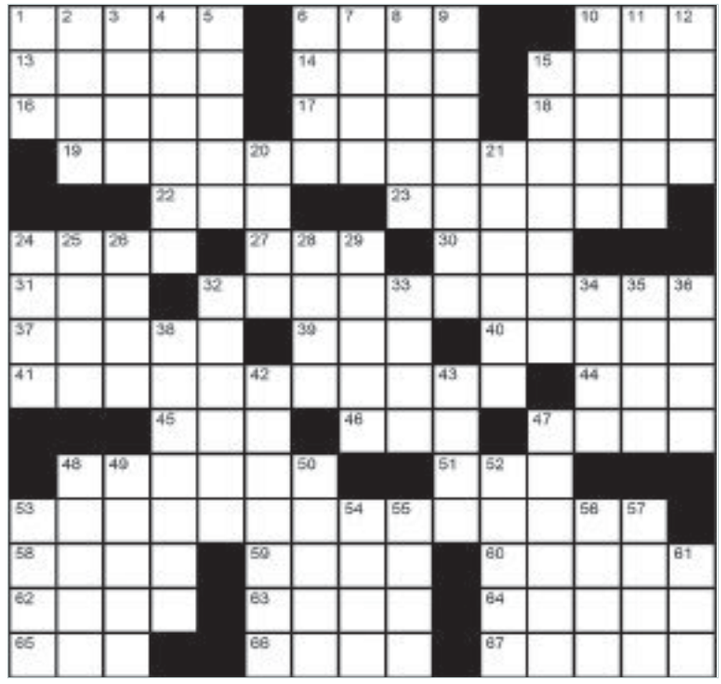
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
The influence of Pluto in your sign makes you even more suspicious than usual. Having said that, perhaps it's a point in your favour that you insist on being shown hard evidence before you take action.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Get out into the world and make things happen. The world is full of people who talk a good game, but very few who actually do something positive. Be one of the latter.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
If you have made a promise, you must keep it. If you try to wriggle out of it, your rep will suffer. You enjoyed short-term benefits, now pay long-term costs. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

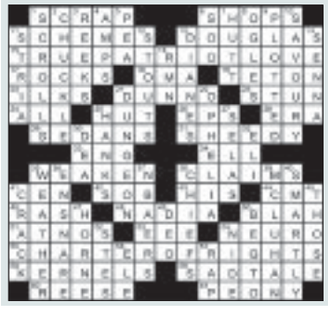
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. __ class (Misses the lecture)
6. TV __ (Watch shows on them)
10. Toy dog's fave place
13. Snip again
14. 'Silver' suffix
15. "__... __ ahead and try it already!" (Stop stalling, eat!)
16. Angered
17. Husk
18. Dix - Deux = ?
19. John Baird, Minister of __ __
22. Bed-and-Breakfast
23. Mr. Richie, "Hello" singer
24. Grateful __
27. "60 Minutes" network
30. Forever, practically
31. Time-saving abbr.
32. Waaay far back
37. Doofus
39. That extra amount on a bill
40. Ludicrous
41. Kraft Singles, basically ...but only one: 2 wds.
44. No __, ands or buts.
45. Poetic contraction
46. Piercing place
47. Big deals
48. Take to be true
51. Cleopatra's cobra
53. Place of commerce in early Canada: acr. + 2 wds.
58. U2's home
59. Ancient Egypt: Son of Ramses I
60. Once more
62. Jewish calendar month
63. Prude
64. Lead/tin alloy
65. "Losing My Religion" rockers
66. Labourer, in olde Anglo-Saxon times
67. Swamp plant

Down
1. Lanka's lead
2. Sawing cut
3. Flight-related UN Agency headquartered in Montreal [acronym]
4. Foul in odour
5. Jan __ (Dutch painter)
6. Loot
7. Yield, such as profit
8. Tribulation
9. Smartphone owner's auto-taken pics
10. Stand-up comic Mr. Anderson
11. No Doubt hit: "Just _ _ _"
12. __ and pans
15. SNL alum Molly, star of "Superstar" (1999)
20. Price hike [abbr.]
21. Soccer, to Brits [var. sp.]
24. Son, e.g., on a family tree
25. Retro toy, __ A Sketch
26. Pine-in-the-heart for
28. Reckons
29. Sedimentary rock
32. Phony person
33. Iris family plant with sword-like leaves
34. Maraud
35. Content or data, briefly
36. Opening to 'pool' or 'pit'
38. Actress, Leighton __
42. All†together: 2 wds.
43. Rocky projection (Mountaineering challenge)
47. Highest orbital point
48. Put up with
49. "Buzz off!"
50. Utopias
52. Tiffs
53. Pick up on sound
54. The Jacksons tune: "Blame __ the Boogie": 2 wds.
55. Evening, fun-style
56. Partially eaten fish in a tin?
57. Plucked guitar string sound
61. Born, in bridal bios

Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

	8		2		1		5	
		9				1		
	2		4		9		6	
	3	5				6	1	
7								8
	4	2				3	9	
	5		1		3		7	
		7				9		
	9		6		7		4	

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	9	8	7	4	2	1	3	5
2	3	1	9	8	5	6	7	4
5	4	7	6	1	3	9	8	2
1	8	3	5	2	7	8	4	9
4	2	9	1	3	8	7	5	6
7	8	5	4	6	9	2	1	3
3	1	6	8	9	4	5	2	7
9	7	2	3	5	1	4	6	8
8	5	4	2	7	6	3	9	1

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